AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (previously presented): System for executing a software application comprising

a computer system connected to a plurality of input/output interfaces (11-14) and a database (6),

the computer system being arranged for implementing a generic application engine (5) and for receiving an application specification (10) as input for the generic application engine (5),

which generic application engine (5) is connected to the plurality of input/output interfaces and to the database (6), the generic application engine (5) being arranged to use a set of functional components, such as database operations, logical operations, presentation functions, user input/output interfaces, logging and monitoring, to convert the application specification (10) into the software application,

the application specification(10) comprising:

a) a specification of a plurality of data classes, a data class being a description of objects relevant within the software application, and the plurality of data classes forming a structure by means of relations;

b) a specification of at least one user group of the software application, a user group being defined as a group of users having common roles with regard to the software application; and

c) an assignment of permissions to the at least one user group with respect to the plurality of data classes, wherein the value of each permission is follow foreign object or own.

Claim 2 (original): System according to claim 1, in which a data class hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended data class as comprising one or more inherited characteristics of an associated super data class.

Claim 3 (previously presented): System according to claim 1 or 2, in which the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of fields, each field representing an element for storing data values relating to an object.

Claim 4 (original): System according to claim 3, in which a field hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended field as comprising one or more inherited field characteristics of an associated super field.

Claim 5 (previously presented): System according to claim 1 in which the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of categories, which can be used to structure all data related to an object.

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (previously presented): System according to claim 1 wherein the permissions are chosen from the group of: select permission; read permission; update permission; insert permission; copy permission; delete permission.

Claims 8-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (previously presented): System for building a software application comprising an input/output device (22), memory means (21) and processing means (20) connected to the input/output device and memory means, the processing means (2) being arranged for defining an application specification (10), using the input/output device (22), and to store the application specification (10) in the memory means (21), which application specification can be input in a system for executing a software application according to claim 1.

Claim 13 (previously presented): Method for executing a software application comprising

inputting an application specification (10) into a generic application engine (5),

which generic application engine (5) is connected to a plurality of input/output interfaces and to a database (6), the generic application engine (5) being arranged to use a set of functional components, such as database operations, logical operations, presentation functions, user input/output interfaces, logging and monitoring, to convert the application specification (10) into the software application,

the application specification (10) comprising:

a) a specification of a plurality of data classes, a data class being a description of objects relevant within the software application, and the plurality of data classes forming a structure by means of relations;

b) a specification of at least one user group of the software application, a user group being defined as a group of users having common rules with regard to the software application; and

c) an assignment of permissions to the at least one user group with respect to the plurality of data classes, wherein the value of each permission is follow foreign object or own.

Claim 14 (original): Method according to claim 13, in which a data class hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended data class as comprising one or more inherited characteristics of an associated super data class.

Claim 15 (previously presented): Method according to claim 13 wherein the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of fields, each field representing an element for storing data values related to an object.

Claim 16 (original): Method according to claim 15, in which a field hierarchy is defined in the application specification by specifying an extended field as comprising one or more inherited field characteristics of an associated super field.

Claim 17 (previously presented): Method according to claim 13, wherein the application specification (10) further comprises for each of the plurality of data classes a specification of a plurality of categories, which can be used to structure all data related to an object.

Claim 18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (previously presented): Method according to claim 13, wherein the permissions are chosen from the group of select permission; read permission; update permission; insert permission; copy permission; delete permission.

Claims 20-23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (previously presented): Method for building a software application comprising

defining an application specification (10) and storing the application specification (10), which application specification is arranged to be used in a method for executing a software application according to claim 12.

Claim 25 (canceled).

Claim 26 (previously presented): A computer readable recording medium, comprising computer readable code, which allows a computer when loaded with the computer readable code

to define an application specification (10) which is adapted to be entered in a generic application engine (5) running on the computer, the application specification comprising:

a) a specification of a plurality of data classes, a data class being a description of objects relevant within the software application, and the plurality of data classes forming a structure by means of relations;

b) a specification of at least one user group of the software application, a user group being defined as a group of users having common rules with regard to the software application; and

c) an assignment of permissions to the at least one user group with respect to the plurality of data classes.